## Message Text

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**ORIGIN OES-04** 

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CG-00 L-02 EPA-01 CEQ-01 DOTE-00

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DRAFTED BY OES/ENP/EN:SCBLACKISTON:NPS
APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN:LGRANT
USCG - CMDR. ATKINSON (BY PHONE)
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----- 085535

R 072239Z JAN 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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E. O. 11652, N/A TAGS: SENV, MX, US

SUBJECT: OIL SPILLS CONTINGENCY PLANNING WITH MEXICO

REF: MEXICO 6587

- 1. PARA D OF REFTEL REPORTS FAVORABLE REACTION OF UNDER SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT VIZCAINO MURRAY TO CONCEPT OF US-MEXICO OIL SPILLS CONTINGENCY PLANNING.

  MURRAY STATED THAT ITEM WOULD BE PLACED ON AGENDA OF AUGUST 8, 1974, INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, WITH POSSIBLE INVITATION FOR VISIT BY APPROPRIATE US OFFICIALS TO MEXICO SHORTLY THEREAFTER, BUT WE HAVE HEARD NOTHING FURTHER ON SUBJECT.
- 2. ON NOVEMBER 27, THEN-GOVERNOR RONALD REAGAN OF CALIFORNIA WROTE TO THE SECRETARY DESCRIBING THE POTENTIAL DANGERS OF OIL SPILLS TO THE COASTS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND BAJA CALIFORNIA AND URGED THE DEPARTMENT TO INITIATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH MEXICO TO DEVELOP A JOINT OIL SPILLS CONTINGENCY PLAN. THE DEPARTMENT'S REPLY CITED THE EFFORTS WE HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MADE THUS FAR TO INTEREST THE MEXICANS IN SUCH JOINT PLANN-

ING AND THAT WE WOULD AGAIN RAISE THE ISSUE TO SEE IF A MORE POSITIVE RESPONSE IS POSSIBLE.

3. ASIDE FROM THE DANGERS OF OIL SPILLS IN WATERS OF BOTH CALIFORNIAS WE ARE EQUALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE DANGERS OF SUCH SPILLS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO AND ALONG THE RIO GRANDE. WE DO NOT SEEK TO DEVELOP A HIGHLY COMPLEX PLAN WITH THE MEXICANS BUT RATHER TO ESTABLISH A MECHANISM SO THAT AT A MINIMUM EACH SIDE WILL KNOW WHOM TO CONTACT AND HOW TO PRO-CEED IN THE EVENT OF A SPILL AFFECTING OR POTENTIALLY AFFECTING THE WATERS OF EITHER OR BOTH COUNTRIES. SUCH A PLAN WOULD PROVIDE MUTUAL BENEFITS MINIMIZING DELAYS IN CLEAN-UP OPERATIONS AND THUS REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF DAMAGE WHICH COULD OCCUR WITH UNCOORDINATED EFFORTS. AS THE EMBASSY IS AWARE, WE HAVE JOINT PLANS WITH THE CANADIANS FOR ALL BORDER WATER AREAS WHICH ARE WORKING QUITE SATIS-FACTORILY. WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEND COAST GUARD OFFICERS TO MEXICO TO DISCUSS OUR IDEAS WITH GOM OFFICIALS IF THE MEXICANS FEEL THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE.

ACTION REQUESTED: SUGGEST EMBASSY RAISE THIS MATTER AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL WITH THE FONOFF AND REPORT RESULTS. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: OIL SPILLS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

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Subject: OIL SPILLS CONTINGENCY PLANNING WITH MEXICO TAGS: SENV, MX, US, (REAGAN, RONALD), (VIZCAINO MURRAY)

To: MEXICO

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